

NOTICES OF SUBSTANTIVE POLICY STATEMENTS

The Administrative Procedure Act requires the publication of substantive policy statements issued by agencies (A.R.S. § 41-1013(B)(14)). Substantive policy statements are written expressions which inform the general public of an agency's current approach to rule or regulation practice. Substantive policy statements are advisory only. A substantive policy statement does not include internal procedural documents that only affect the internal procedures of the agency and does not impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties or include confidential information or rules made in accordance with the Arizona Administrative Procedure Act. If you believe that a substantive policy statement does impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties you may petition the agency under A.R.S. § 41-1033 for a review of the statement.

NOTICE OF SUBSTANTIVE POLICY STATEMENT

BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

1. Subject of the substantive policy statement and the substantive policy statement number by which the document or policy statement is referenced:

The substantive policy statement clarified the proper use of titles, academic designations and professional certifications that shall be used by an Arizona licensed physical therapist. The number by which this substantive policy statement is known is SPS 2004-01.

2. Date the substantive policy statement was issued and the effective date of the policy statement if different from the publication or issuance:

The substantive policy statement was approved by the Board and became effective on DATE.

3. Summary of the contents of the guidance document or the substantive policy statement:

A licensed physical therapist must first refer to him or herself in writing as "P.T.", not "L.P.T." or "R.P.T." Any other academic degrees, credentials and other designations may follow the "P.T." designation. Using the academic degree designation in lieu of the designation "P.T." is not acceptable.

4. A statement as to whether the guidance document or substantive policy statement is a new document or statement or a revision:

SPS 2004-01 is a new substantive policy statement.

5. The name, address, and telephone number of the person to whom questions and comments about the guidance document or substantive policy statement may be directed:

Heidi Herbst Paakkonen, Executive Director
1400 West Washington, Suite 230
Phoenix, AZ 85007
(602) 542-3095
heidi.herbst-paakkonen@ptboard.state.az.us

6. Information about where a person may obtain a copy of the guidance document or the substantive policy statement and the costs for obtaining the document or policy statement:

A request may be submitted to the office of the Arizona Board of Physical Therapy as listed above. There is no cost for duplication of the one-page substantive policy statement. There is a \$5 fee for the entire book of the statutes and rules for the Arizona Board of Physical Therapy.

USE OF PROFESSIONAL TITLES OR DESIGNATIONS BY ARIZONA LICENSED PHYSICAL THERAPISTS

Pursuant to A.R.S. §32-2042, Use of titles; restrictions; violation; classification, a person licensed by the Arizona Board of Physical Therapy shall use the professional written designation "P.T." immediately following his or her name.

Following the "P.T." designation, licensees may list academic degrees (e.g. B.S., M.P.T., D.P.T., Ph.D.), and professional specialty certifications including but not limited to: Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Certified Specialist (CCS), Electrophysiologic Certified Specialist (ECS), Geriatric Certified Specialist (GCS), Neurologic Certified Specialist (NCS), Orthopaedic Certified Specialist (OCS), Pediatric Certified Specialist (PCS), Sports Certified Specialist (SCS), Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist (CSCS) and Certified Hand Therapist (CHT). These degrees and designations may not be listed in lieu of the designation of "P.T."

The designations "R.P.T." (Registered Physical Therapist) and "L.P.T." (Licensed Physical Therapist) are not recognized by the Arizona Revised Statutes, nor by the Arizona Board of Physical Therapy.

All other requirements of A.R.S. §32-2042 apply with respect to use of titles.